

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN
RECONVENED ITS RECESSED SESSION OF JUNE 6, 2011 ON JUNE 10, 2011
AT 3:05 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH
CAROLINA. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO CONDUCT A
BUDGET WORK SESSION.**

At 3:05 p.m. Vice Chairman Allen called the meeting to order, with four Commissioners present: Commissioners Thomas F. Mark, Theron L. McCabe, Johnnie Sampson, Jr. and Lee Kyle Allen. Commissioners Scott C. Dacey, Jefferey S. Taylor and Steve Tyson joined the meeting in progress.

Staff Present: Harold Blizzard, County Manager; Jack B. Veit, III., Assistant County Manager; Richard F. Hemphill, Finance Director and Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board.

The Board was led in a review of proposed changes to the recommended budget to date, which resulted in a shortage of \$8,675.

Veterans Council

The Board's consensus was to remit \$1,000 budgeted for the current year, with no appropriation for FY 2012. The Board will revisit the philosophical aspects of funding this agency in the future.

Community College

The Board reviewed the proposed budget for incorporating the Community College needs into the County's Capital Outlay budget.

Assistant County Manager, Jack Veit, requested the following reclassifications:

1. Health General Utility Worker to Maintenance Tech I
2. Rename DSS General Utility Worker to Tech I and bring the position into the County Maintenance Department

The Chairman had previously directed Mr. Veit to canvass surrounding counties on Chamber of Commerce memberships, with the following results:

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Membership Fee Paid</u>
Onslow	\$2,768
Carteret	\$1,300

Commissioner Mark moved to suspend membership in both the New Bern and Havelock Chambers of Commerce, seconded by Commissioner Dacey. There was discussion about the principle of maintaining membership in a private organization in addition to the cost. Commissioner Allen offered an amendment to the motion to defer consideration until the County Manager receives an answer to his request to the New Bern Chamber for a negotiated fee, seconded by Commissioner McCabe. The amended motion failed with three (3) "ayes" from Commissioners Allen, McCabe and Sampson, there being four (4) "nays" from Commissioners Dacey, Mark, Taylor and Tyson. The original motion carried with three (3) "ayes" from Commissioners Dacey, Mark and Taylor, there being two (2) "nays" from Commissioners McCabe and Sampson. Commissioners Allen and Tyson did not voice a vote, which was counted as two "aye" votes.

Religious Community Services (RCS)

Mr. Veit reported that seven out of nine counties surveyed do not have an agency similar to RCS that the county funds. The exceptions are Onslow County, which funds an agency in the amount of \$12,500 from county funds and Pitt County, which handles a pass-through DSS grant.

Commissioner Dacey reported on a visit and tour of RCS on June 9. He concluded that some government relationship was evident, particularly in the case of some of the children who are clients, and who would otherwise be foster care candidates, costing the County \$500 to several thousand dollars per month.

He stated that the request from RCS was originally for salary; however, funds are generally used as needed. He expressed concern as to how the organization determines eligibility and whether there are clients who can provide for themselves taking advantage of the agency's services. Commissioner Taylor suggested an intermediate funding level, splitting a total appropriation between RCS and the Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina. Commissioner Sampson moved to include \$20,000 in the budget, with the following conditions, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried:

1. Government money may not continue; therefore, RCS should begin to seek other means
2. RCS should institute measures to ensure that the neediest are receiving the aid
3. The County will support RCS in any way possible to assist with the above goals.

NC 20

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, reported that information on the NC 20 budget had been requested, but not yet received. It was the consensus of the Board that no funds should be appropriated now, but may be appropriated at a later date if the County sees fit. It was noted that only eight out of 20 counties are paying their respective shares.

Soil Conservation

The consensus was to continue the program, appropriating \$90,000, as its significant impact on the farming community has been recognized.

C-TV10

A proposal on live streaming of Commissioners' meetings has not been received. Mr. Blizzard recommended maintaining the arrangement as it is for the present.

Teen Court

The program requested \$15,000 for an assistant to the coordinator, a position which has been vacant for two months. Commissioner Dacey moved that the request not be funded, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, and carried with five (5) "ayes", there being two (2) "nays" from Commissioners Sampson and McCabe.

Schools

The Board of Education learned that \$1.2 million in debt service funds, which it had planned to use for property acquisition, will likely be needed to service debt. Money for property to build a new school, will be put back into the budget, subject to the Board's approval.

It was the consensus to invite the Board of Education for a dialogue to discuss facility needs and debt service. There was consensus to try arranging a meeting to be scheduled for June 20 after the Commissioners' regular session meeting.

Performance of Personnel

At 5:20 p.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Mark, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6) to discuss personnel matters.

At 5:49 p.m. the Board returned to the regular session and Commissioner Sampson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Mark.

Chairman Steve Tyson
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board